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Action
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TO: Secretary of State

NO: 216, August 25, 3 p.m.

Domingo Goicolea, Under Secretary for Foreign Relations, told Embassy officer this morning that on direct orders from Lt. Col. Castillo Armas government had granted 171 safe conducts for persons in asylum in foreign Embassies and would clean all of them out as quickly as possible as their continued presence here was dangerous. He said ex-President Arbenz and all others against whom there might be criminal charges would be allowed to depart and extradition would be requested later.

Goicolea referred to efforts by Salvadoran Ambassador Funes and Department to find some place to send most dangerous of asylees but indicated that unless solution were reached before their turn for safe conducts came up, safe conducts would be granted.

Brief glance at list of 171 safe conducts already delivered to foreign Embassies showed it contained minor collaborators with Arbenz regime, second echelon card-carrying Communists and number of foreign Communist figures, including Amaya Amador, leader of local Honduran exiles. List is not being made public lest there be attack on some refugee when leaving but Goicolea promised Embassy copy later.

Guatamalan policy, as enunciated by Goicolea, clearly prejudices Department's proposals re approach to Mexico which Castillo Armas and Foreign Minister Salazar told me three days ago they approved. If policy is carried out it is clear safe conducts will have been granted before action on plan can be completed.

PEURIFOY

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